

Fair Michigan, Inc., is submitting this statement in support of HJR GG, which would amend the anti-discrimination clause of the Michigan Constitution 1963, art. I, sec. 2, to prohibit discrimination in the enjoyment and exercise of civil or political rights on the basis of sex.

Fair Michigan is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Michigan corporation, which seeks to secure equal protection of the laws based on gender, gender identity, sex, and sexual orientation. There can be no dispute that the Constitutional extension of non-discrimination protections to include sex would promote our corporate purposes and lead to a fairer and more just future for all Michigan residents.

This amendment would recognize that equality between women and men is a fundamental principle in our society, and that no person should be discriminated against based on outdated stereotypes of women, men, and their roles in public and private life.

We also recognize that a broad spectrum of pernicious discriminatory activity would be forbidden by this amendment. The Supreme Court, the federal courts, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have established that “discrimination on the basis of sex” encompasses discrimination involving sex-stereotyping, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender transitioning, and gender-nonconforming behavior. By adopting this amendment, Michigan residents would make significant strides toward fulfilling Fair Michigan’s vision, which is to create a Michigan where the presence and contributions of everyone are welcome and celebrated regardless of their gender, gender identity, sex, or sexual orientation; where intolerance is challenged and defeated; where justice prevails, and where the civil rights of all people are valued and respected.

For these reasons, Fair Michigan strongly urges the House Judiciary Committee to adopt HJR GG and add “sex” to the anti-discrimination clause of Art. I, sec.2 of the Michigan Constitution 1963.

Thank you for your consideration of this communication.

Sincerely,

Dana Nessel, President  
Fair Michigan Foundation